

THE TRUE
NARRATIVE
 OF THE
PROCEEDINGS
 AT
The Sessions-House
 IN THE
OLD-BAYLY

Which began on *Wednesday* the 8th of this Instant *December*, 1680 and ended on *Thursday* the 9th following.

Giving an Account of most of the Remarkable Trials there, viz. For Murder, Felonies and Burglaries, &c. with a particular Relation of their Names, and the places of their committing their Facts, with the number of those Condemned to die, Burn'd in the Hand, Transported and to be whipt.

But more particularly of the Trial and Condemnation of *Elizabeth Owen* for firing her Masters house, and of *Charles Sansin* for Robbing a French Marquess in *St. Jameses*.

THe first was *Charles Sansin*, who was Indicted for Robbing a French Lord living in the *Palmal*, the particulars sworn against him in Court were that he in the company of three or four more not yet taken, having watched their opportunities about two or three of the Clock on the second of this Instant, got into the Lodging of the French Lord, and by opening the doors with Picklocks, or some such kind of Instruments, had proceeded as far as his Lodging Chamber, where they supposed to find him, but were mistaken, for his Gentleman happened that Night to lye in his Bed, and the Lord by reason of some indisposition, Lodged in a Chamber more warm and retire from noise. No sooner had they entered, but with great knives of a strange fashion they Assaulted him. But after some Wounds he awoke and

strug'ed with them, wresting *Saxins* Knife out of his hand, and then crying out Murther and Thieves so long; that not only the rest of the Family, but some Neighbours took the Alarm; whereupon the Thieves, being as it is reported all Frenchmen fled, but the Prisoner for hast mistook the way out, and ran down into the Celler, where he was taken all Bloody, and upon Examination, did confess they were five in number, and that they came with a design to Rob the House, but upon his Tryal denyed it, yet the Proof being plain he was found Guilty.

Simon Lee, *Thomas Bolton* Alias *Le'mur*, and *Hannah Bolton* of the Parish of *St. Bartoloph* without *Aldersgate*, were Arraigned and Tried for Robbing the House of *Bridget Scuder* in the *Minories*, the Circumstances thus, the three Prisoners coming into her House to drink, went into a Room near the staire foot, and after they had been there a while, *Bolton* asked for some Victuals when as the other said, that his Dinner was ready for him at home and he must go, so pretending to go home, he watched his Opportunity and slipt up stairs, where, with Picklocks he opened a Trunk, and took out thence 4 Jacobuss, 2 Silver Tankards, 17 Guinies, 3 Gold Rings, and about 27 Pounds in Silver, with a Pettycoat and other wearing Apparel, with which he made his escape, being seen by one of the Witnesses to come down Stairs, after he was gone, the other two payed their Reckoning and departed. The Woman finding her self Robbed, Applied her self to a Thief-taker, who directed her to a Brokers, where *Hannah Bolton* had Pauned them, upon which she was Apprehended, and in a short time after, the other two, they all pleaded Ignorance of the Fact, saying, that an Irishman brought the Coat to *Boltons* House, and desired his Wife to Paun it, which she did, but they not being able to prove it, and the Evidence being possitive, that the Prisoners were there when the Robbery was done, the two Men were Convicted, and the Woman by reason of her Marriage acquitted, having been all old Offenders, and severely Burnt in the Hand.

Elizabeth Owen was Indicted for Firing her Masters House, being the sign of the Hen and Chickens near *St. Dunstons* Church in *Fleetstreet*, on the 8th, of *November* past, having set Fire to several Trunks in the Garret which she had opened and Robbed, she came down about 11 of the Clock of the said Evening and sitting in the Bar, complained of a Smoak she smelt, saying, she believed the House was on Fire, or words to that Effect, nor would she be perswaded otherways, though her Master did assure her there had been no Company but what he knew up Stairs that day, at her earnestness the Drawer went into the back-yard to spie if he could see any, when observing a great light on the top of the House, he ran up Stairs and found the Garrets all on Fire, which had Burnt through the floor, the Prisoner seemed little concerned at, but was observed to be more mindful of Plunder, then of extinguishing the Fire, so that they began to suspect her, and after the Fire was over, found a bundle of Cloaths which she had taken out of the Trunks wrapped up in her Apron and hurled out into a Neighbours yard, upon these and many other shrewd Circumstances, she was found Guilty.

Margaret Addams of the Parish of *St. Brides*, was Indicted for the Murther of her Male Infant, which she was delivered of on the 28th of *November* last it being found hid in the Bed-cloaths smothered as it was supposed, her plea was, that it was Born dead, and that upon promise of Marriage a fellow in the Countrey had got her with Child, and appointed to meet her at *London*, and compleat the Ceremony, but had failed her, there being no Proof Testimony of the Childs being Born dead, she was according to the Statute of King *James* found Guilty.

John Fielder was Indicted for stealing a silver Tankard, valued at 4 Pounds to which he pleaded Guilty, without any further Tryal.

Franzis Small was Tried for Robbing the House of *Richard Leek*, on the 21 of *August* last, between 10 and 11 of the Clock in the Evening, breaking through the Wall, he and an other which he called *Robin* entered, there being none but a Servant Maid in the House, whom they surpris'd in Bed, swearing that if she would not tell them where the Plate and Money was they would cut her Throat, which fear made her tell them it was in a Chest up one pair of Stairs higher, whereupon the Prisoner watched her, and sent the other up to fetch it, who did so, and bringing it down they together broke it open taking thence about 50 Shillings in Money, a Silver Spoon, a Curral and Chain, with several other things departed. The Prisoner denyed that he was the Man but the Evidence being plain he was found Guilty.

Jane Lane was Indicted for stealing 16 yards of Persian Silk, and 8 Ounces of Silver, the which she in the Company of an other conveyed away, but was taken in disposing the same, and being known to be a Thiel, she was Committed to *Newgate*, upon her Tryal she denyed the Fact, and would have put it upon her Partner, but the Evidence was so plain against her, that she was found Guilty of the Felony.

Edward Townsend was Indicted for being Accessary to the killing of *Isaac Smith* a Watchman in *Lvy-Lane*, for which *Edward Whittaker* and *John Watson* were Condemned in the late Sessions. But there being no great Proof against the now Prisoner, and he alledging that he was none of their Company, but that he came by accident, he was discharged by the Jury.

Benjamin Wilkason was Indicted for stealing several parcels of Linnen, as Shifts Napkins and Tablecloths to a considerable vallue; to which he pleaded not Guilty, as likewise to all others within the benefit of Clergy.

Hugh Jones a Boy not above twelve years of Age was Indicted for picking the Pocket of *Elizabeth Griffin* upon *London Bridg*, of moneys to the vallue of two shillings and three pence, she taking his hand before he could convey the monies out of it: but he being young, the Jury by the direction of the Court brought him in Guilty but to the vallue of nine pence.

Perkins Woodruf of the Parish of *Edmunton*, was Indicted for stealing a Mare from *Edward Ball*, vallued at 4 pounds, he being taken upon the back of her, he alledged that he swaped with his Father-in-Law; and that he had a Horse of him for her and that he had has said Father-in-Law in *Bedford-Goal* upon the same account. This being testified the Court gave order for the prosecuting his Father-in-Law, and *Woodruf* was acquitted.

Jane Lycker was Indicted for Felony and Burglary for entering the house of one **Jeremiah Watson** in the day time, by opening the Locks with Picklock Keys, and had another of her Companions standing beside her; she was observed by some of the Neighbours who apprehended her, upon which, she pretended to be a Lodger in the House; and going back threw down the things she had stolen, yet at her Trial she denied that ever she was in the house or near it, but only was passing by, yet the Evidence being plain, she was found Guilty.

Nicholas Hoskins was Indicted for stealing two Cows out of a Stuff-sellers Shop upon Tower-hill, about eight in the Evening, he watching his opportunity till the Man had turned his back, and then getting one went and hid it under a Stall, and afterwards came for another, which he had no sooner got, but an opposite neighbour observing him laid hold on him. Upon his Trial he could not deny the Theft, and so in short was found Guilty.

There were two Men and three Women that received Sentence of Death, viz. **Francis Small, Charles Sanja, Elizabeth Owen, Jane Lant** and **Margaret Adams**. 4 burn'd in the hand; 3 to be Transported, and 3 to be whipt.

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